

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN  
SOUTHERN DIVISION

\* \* \*

NATHANEAL TAYLOR,

Plaintiff,

- vs. -

Case No. 03-73595

Hon. Paul Borman

JAMES FISCHER, DWIGHT PEARSON,  
GREG EDWARDS, SGT. KINNEY, EDWARD  
VIVERETTE, ERNEST WILSON, ARTHUR  
MILLER, THOMAS KEYS, and  
BARBARA SIMON,

Defendants. /

DEPONENT: AMEER ROSS

DATE: Thursday, April 8, 2004

TIME: 2:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Parnall Correctional Facility  
Jackson, Michigan

REPORTED BY: JENNIFER DIANE CLAUSON, CSR-6867

Clauson & Carnegie Court Reporting, L.L.C.

Telephone (248) 683-8516

1 Q. Okay. Do you have any family members living in any houses?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Your mom?

4 A. No. My mother stays in an apartment where she at.

5 Q. Which family members live in some of your houses?

6 A. My cousin. She stays on West McNichols.

7 Q. Did you ever buy a house or were you given a house by Ernest  
8 Wilson?

9 A. I purchased a house from Ernest Wilson.

10 Q. Okay. And he was the homicide detective involved in the  
11 Nathaneal Taylor case; is that correct?

12 A. Yes, ma'am -- yes, sir.

13 Q. Okay. And what's the address for that or what's --

14 A. I don't remember the address. I sent --

15 Q. Okay. How about the street, sir?

16 A. It's on Six Mile.

17 Q. Six Mile? Is that where your cousin lives?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Okay. Do you know who the house is deeded in?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. It's --

22 A. No. It's not in my name.

23 Q. Whose house -- whose name is it in?

24 A. Anderson. His last name is Anderson.

25 Q. Okay.

1 A. First name Odis.

2 Q. I'm sorry.

3 A. Odis.

4 Q. Odis. So the deed is in Odis Anderson's name?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And is Odis Anderson any kin to you?

7 A. Through marriage, yes.

8 Q. He's your fiancée's --

9 A. No. Through marriage meaning he married somebody --

10 Q. Oh, I'm sorry now. Okay. How long has he been living over  
11 there?

12 A. Since 2000 -- 2001.

13 Q. Okay. Is that when you bought the house?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Okay. You say you own a lot of properties and you own these  
16 properties because you were a real estate developer; is  
17 that --

18 A. No. I wasn't a real estate developer. Some of my houses  
19 come from when my father passed and the other houses I  
20 purchased.

21 Q. Okay. And you're renting them out for income properties  
22 and --

23 A. Well, basically, yes.

24 Q. Okay.

25 A. I'm not getting any.

1 Q. Okay. Do you remember how much you paid for this house from  
2 Ernest Wilson?

3 A. It was -- he listed the house at 45,000.

4 Q. Uh-huh.

5 A. I didn't pay but 38 for it.

6 Q. How did you end up getting that deal?

7 A. Well, I mean I had some basically dealings with Ernest  
8 Wilson.

9 Q. Okay. Other than this case?

10 A. Other than this case as --

11 Q. You said you had some dealings with him and what type of  
12 dealings did you have with him other than the Nathaneal  
13 Taylor case?

14 A. Well, I mean prior to this, drugs and different things like  
15 that.

16 Q. Okay. And what do you mean by drugs?

17 A. Well, I used to get drugs and sell them to -- not directly  
18 to him, but people he knew.

19 Q. Okay. So you would get drugs for his friends and -- so they  
20 could use them?

21 A. Yes, sir.

22 Q. Okay. And he knew about that?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Okay. So Mr. Wilson would say, Mr. Ross, can you help my  
25 buddies out and get them some drugs?

1 A. No, it wasn't basically like that. He would call and ask me  
2 what I was I doing and I would be like nothing. He was like  
3 I need you to make some runs for me. I got some people who  
4 want some stuff and my mother -- when he said when he gets  
5 to the parking lot, he would call and my mother told him I  
6 would be right down.

7 Q. Okay. And so you would make the runs to get drugs and he  
8 would give you money for the drugs?

9 A. Basically, I made -- he didn't per say give me no money. I  
10 made my money off of the sales. Actually I was selling to  
11 -- to his -- to him for more than what the price was that  
12 he --

13 Q. Right.

14 A. -- you know, then what I bought it from the next person for.

15 Q. Okay. So you go get the drugs, you would sell the drugs to  
16 him, and you would make money that way, right?

17 A. Yes, sir.

18 Q. Okay. And then he would -- apparently he told you that he  
19 would give these drugs to his friends then?

20 A. Yes, sir.

21 Q. Okay. Do you know what a controlled buy is?

22 A. A controlled buy is basically if the police bought it or  
23 something like that or what would be called an informant.

24 Q. Right. Or had marked money and gave you marked money and  
25 had you buy, right?

1 A. Right.

2 Q. This wasn't a controlled buy situation, was it?

3 A. No, sir.

4 Q. Okay. This was basically for his personal use or his  
5 friend's personal use?

6 MS. COLE: Objection. Leading.

7 Q. (BY MR. TRAINOR): Go ahead. Or what was it for?

8 A. I mean I purchased the drugs for him for someone else.

9 Q. Okay. That's -- is that what he told you?

10 A. Basically.

11 Q. Okay. But he did give you money for the drugs? I want to  
12 make that clear, right?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Okay. Was this before or after the Nathaneal Taylor case --

15 A. Well, --

16 Q. -- you were involved with?

17 A. -- I met Ernest Wilson. I was down at homicide --

18 Q. Right.

19 A. -- through some more officers that I -- I was down there on  
20 other cases.

21 Q. Okay.

22 A. He called me upstairs on a --

23 Q. Okay.

24 A. -- and interviewed me and told me he needed me to do  
25 something for him. I asked him what it was. He then said

1 well, I have a guy down -- upstairs. I don't remember what  
2 -- recollect what cell I was in, but he moved me next to --  
3 across from Nathaneal.

4 Q. Right.

5 A. He then told me he needed me to try to get information out  
6 of him.

7 Q. Right.

8 A. Which Nathaneal wouldn't give up any information too much.  
9 The only thing he asked me to do at that time was call his  
10 fiancée --

11 Q. Right.

12 A. -- or I don't know her name and tell her to -- that he had  
13 just gave them authority. Not authority, but gave them  
14 permission to enter his home --

15 Q. Right.

16 A. -- and I done that.

17 Q. Okay.

18 A. So --

19 Q. Okay. Did he ever tell you that -- tell her to hide guns or  
20 anything like that or --

21 A. Well, on the -- on the statement that officer -- I mean  
22 Sergeant Wilson showed me to write down basically had that  
23 on there to have her move a gun out of the house.

24 Q. But did he ever say --

25 A. No.

- 1 Q. -- that to you?
- 2 A. No, sir.
- 3 Q. Okay. So that statement was false, right?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Okay. Let's go back here. You knew some homicide  
6 detectives. Ernest Wilson had you come up and meet with him  
7 and told you that he was going to move you by Nathaneal  
8 Taylor so you could get some information from him, correct?
- 9 A. Right.
- 10 Q. Okay. You signed some statements that I've reviewed and it  
11 indicates that there's some information regarding a murder.  
12 Where did you get that information from?
- 13 A. I got that information from the statement that Sergeant  
14 Wilson had wrote out.
- 15 Q. Okay. So Sergeant Wilson writes out this statement, he  
16 tells you sign this, correct?
- 17 A. No, he didn't tell me to sign it. He said for me to write  
18 it out in my handwriting and then sign it.
- 19 Q. Okay. So he wrote out a statement?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. And then told you to copy it in your handwriting?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. Okay. And then you signed it?
- 24 A. Yes, I did.
- 25 Q. Okay. Did Nathaneal Taylor ever tell you he killed anybody?



1 A. No. The only thing that Nathaneal Taylor did tell me was  
2 the guy that he went to the store for got killed.

3 Q. Right.

4 A. And that's what he was being questioned for down at  
5 homicide.

6 Q. Okay. He never told you he went in and shot anybody; is  
7 that correct?

8 A. No. He never said anything about that, but in the statement  
9 that Mr. Taylor -- I mean excuse me -- that Sergeant Wilson  
10 gave me, was if I'm thinking correctly, he said that the boy  
11 entered the house to shoot the guy. He had a cousin on the  
12 porch.

13 Q. Right.

14 A. And there was thick plastic against the windows where a  
15 person couldn't actually see in. That all of this was done  
16 because the guy supposedly punked Nathaneal Taylor out for  
17 -- Nathaneal went to the store for him to get him some lunch  
18 and a beer.

19 Q. Okay. That's basically what the statement said, but  
20 Nathaneal didn't tell you all that stuff, did he?

21 A. No, sir.

22 Q. Okay. That's the stuff that Ernest Wilson made up and had  
23 you copy in your handwriting and then sign, correct?

24 A. Well, basically I don't know if it was made up, but that's  
25 what he showed me on a police report and asked me to copy

1       they?

2   A.   Basically some of them wrote letters.   Some of them -- well,  
3       basically it's not -- a detective from homicide never came.  
4       They just wrote letters.

5   Q.   Okay.

6   A.   Which that was in Judge Andrews' court -- I mean Judge  
7       Coon's courtroom.

8   Q.   Right.

9   A.   I had letters from homicide saying that I helped them in  
10       several murders which is in my PSI two that I helped on  
11       several homicide murder cases.

12   Q.   Okay.   That's how were able to get that one year in Oakland  
13       County instead of being sentenced to habitual four, correct?

14   A.   Well --

15                   MS. COLE:  Objection.  Foundation.

16   Q.   (BY MR. TRAINOR):  Go ahead.

17                   MS. COLE:  He said he doesn't know why the  
18       judge gave him that.

19                   MR. TRAINOR:  He might.

20                   THE WITNESS:  Well, basically --

21                   MS. COLE:  I would like to know that first  
22       how he knows that.

23   Q.   (BY MR. TRAINOR):  Okay.  Go ahead.

24   A.   Well, basically during the sentence, judge -- Judge Coon  
25       said -- no.  My lawyer-attorney said well, you will say

1 because they came to help you and those letters helped and  
2 that they gave me the first year in the county jail which  
3 this is the same time that I'm doing now for those cases --

4 Q. Right.

5 A. -- for probation violation.

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. But he -- you know, he basically let me know if the police  
8 wasn't there.

9 Q. Okay.

10 A. You know, that I was exposed.

11 Q. Did anybody promise you anything else to give testimony in  
12 the Nathaneal Taylor case?

13 A. Well, basically I can't -- I'm not going to sit here and say  
14 that they promised me anything.

15 Q. Okay.

16 A. He said that he would make sure I get the least time as I  
17 could --

18 Q. Okay.

19 A. -- for those cases.

20 Q. Okay.

21 MS. COLE: Who's he? His --

22 THE WITNESS: Sergeant Wilson.

23 Q. (BY MR. TRAINOR): Right. Mr. Turner's come and seen you a  
24 couple or three times, correct?

25 A. Yes, he has.

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Okay. Was that a true statement?

3 A. No.

4 Q. Okay. Who had you write that one out?

5 A. That was office -- that was a detective out of --

6 Q. Simon? A woman?

7 MS. COLE: Objection. Leading.

8 Q. (BY MR. TRAINOR): Go ahead.

9 A. Her name is Sergeant Simon.

10 Q. Okay.

11 A. That's when --

12 THE WITNESS: Do you remember I told you  
13 about --

14 Q. (BY MR. TRAINOR): Okay. So --

15 A. As far as the boy supposed to burn the house up or something  
16 with a body in it.

17 Q. Did she do the same stuff that Wilson was doing having you  
18 look at police reports and statements and then copy it down  
19 in your own handwriting?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Okay. And then you would write it out in your own  
22 handwriting and then they'd recopy it and have you sign the  
23 statement?

24 A. That was typed out, yes.

25 Q. Okay. This one was also typed out too in this case?

1 Q. Okay. You testified in December 18th preliminary  
2 examination in which you testified that Nathaneal Taylor  
3 killed this boy at the dope house. Was that true?

4 A. No.

5 Q. Okay. And all the testimony at that preliminary examination  
6 was a lie, wasn't it?

7 A. Yes, it was.

8 Q. Okay. Just like the first preliminary exam, right?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Why did you testify that way then?

11 A. Because like I said I was basically trying to keep my part  
12 of the deal and when they had let me go.

13 Q. They had let you out on bond, right?

14 A. They had let me out on bond on another case. As far as  
15 homicide keeping me on the floor until I testified against  
16 some other guys that supposedly done a murder. I was  
17 already home. I had got out. So I went to stay with my  
18 mother which Wilson was picking me up everyday from my  
19 mother's house.

20 Q. Okay. So he would bring you back and then you would come  
21 down and help him out with other murder investigations?

22 A. Yeah. They'd set me up on the floor. See if I could get  
23 people to talk.

24 Q. At trial you testified that Mr. Taylor committed the murder  
25 and he told you that and told some facts and what not